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APPLICATION NO	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO	CONFIRMATION NO
09 702,724	11 01 2000	Mario Sandor	198956US0	1228

22850 7590 05 22 2003

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EXAMINER

YOON, TAE H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1714

DATE MAILED: 05 22 2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/702,724

Applicant(s)

Sandor et al

Examiner

T. Yoon

Group Art Unit

1714

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4-23-03
- ☒ This action is **FINAL**.

- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4-29 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 5, 7-16, 19-24 and 26-29 is/are rejected.
- ☒ Claim(s) 6, 17, 18 and 25 is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement

Application Papers

- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

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The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-9, 11-14, 20, 21, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Guerin (US 5,643,993).

Rejection is maintained for reason of record and following.

Claims are silent as to the molecular weight of P1 and P2, one of them polymerized in the presence of at least one chain transfer agent. The purpose of using said chain transfer agent is to control a molecular weight of a polymer, but many reaction parameters such as temperature, an amount of an initiators and a reaction time control said molecular weight as well. Therefore, the recitation of a chain transfer agent alone has little probative value. In short, a polymer is a polymer whether it is obtained in the presence or absence of the chain transfer agent absent particular molecular weights. The instant claim is similar to the situation, a first athletic ran

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without drinking water and a second athletic ran with drinking water, but it did not say how many miles each athletic ran and thus a comparison of the distance each ran is impossible. An olympic track and field athletic without drinking water would run longer than the examiner with drinking water, (and thus the recitation of each molecular weight is imperative in the claim). Contrary to applicant's statement, the rejection under an anticipation is proper.

With respect to table 2, the film thickness is not required in the claim, and applicant failed to utilize the same film thickness for a fair comparison. Again, with respect to the Zhao Declaration, the instant claims are silent as to the molecular weight of P1 and P2, and thus said Declaration has little probative value. Guerin teaches P1 being approximately 65 wt.% which is close to instant 66.7 wt.% (of monomers) and said 66.7 wt.% is directed to the amount of monomers, not of a polymer P1. Polymerization would not yield 100% conversion of monomers, and thus said approximately 65 wt.% of a polymer would have encompasses instant 66.7 wt.% of monomers or is at least obvious modification, and the instant claims do not recite an amount of polymers.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-16, 19-24 and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Guerin (US 5,643,993) alone, or in view of Hieda et al (US 5,804,676).

Rejection is maintained for reason of record and above.

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Note that the rejection of claims 17 and 18 is withdrawn because claims 17 and 18 reciting particular molecular weight (absence of the chain transfer agent) in combination with claims 13 and 14 (presence of the chain transfer agent) would have a provative value.

Claims 6, 17, 18 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Note that

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tae H. Yoon whose telephone number is (703) 308-2389. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan, can be reached on (703) 306-2777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9311.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

THY/May 20, 2003



TAE H. YOON
PRIMARY EXAMINER